

GEOGRAPHIC NEWS BULLETIN

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THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

(The National Geographic Society is a scientific and educational Society, wholly altruistic, incorporated under the Federal law as a non-commercial institution for the increase of geographic knowledge and its popular diffusion.)

General Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

CONTENTS FOR WEEK OF NOVEMBER 13, 1922. Vol. 1. No. 16.

1. Lifting the Nine Lids of Troy.
 2. When Footballs Were Stuffed With Shavings.
 3. Mankind's Debt to the Volcano.
 4. Africa's Oil Coast.
 5. The Coiffures of Many Languages.
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NAVY TRYING FOR A FIELD GOAL PLACE KICK

King James found football "meeter for lameing than making able the users thereof," and another writer charged the game with inciting "brawling, murther, and homicide." Small wonder, for entire towns engaged in it, and the whereabouts of the ball was of minor consequence. It remained for American colleges to put the ball back into football and take enough of the "kick" out to make it a red-blooded and humane sport.

HOW TO OBTAIN THE BULLETIN

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Lifting the Nine Lids of Troy

WHEN Greeks crossed over into Asia Minor to take possession of the territory allotted them by the Treaty of Sevres, and thus aroused the ire of Mustapha Kemal's forces, their expedition recalled the memorable crossing of the Greeks of 3,000 years ago, the siege of Troy, and the wanderings of Aeneas, historic founder of the early Roman race.

About an hour from the sea, near the Dardanelles, the ruins of the ancient city of Troy stand upon an eminence looking out over the plains where her immortal sons fell in her defense. At its foot the Scamander winds to the sea.

Excavations on the site have revealed nine cities, built one upon the top of the other in times past. The sixth from the bottom of these is the Troy of which Homer and Virgil sang. Today there stands little to tell of the might of the former Priam and Paris and the splendor which the beautiful Helen caused to be tumbled into dust.

Wall of Great Siege Still Discernible

There is a long, low ridge some four or five miles in length which ends in a promontory, where the city itself was located. The great wall which withstood the siege of the Greeks for nine years can still be traced almost in its entirety. A fine tower, containing a large well and a postern gate, stands at the northeast corner.

Five miles off the coast lies the little island of Tenedos where the Greeks hid, awaiting the time when the wooden horse should make his way through the city walls. Today the windmills of its busy 4,000 people whirl merrily over its sixteen square miles of territory.

After the exile had slipped away about 30 miles to the southeast of the plain of Troy and had built his little fleet under the shadow of the Ida Mountains, he set sail with his followers to Thrace—the same Thrace with which mighty Athens made an alliance in the fifth century B. C., which later fell into the hands of Philip of Macedon, and which as a result of the World War was added to the territory under the suzerainty of the King of Greece. Here he founded the city of Enos, which even now commands the harbor in the Gulf of Enos, at the mouth of the Maritza River.

Island Anchored by Chains

Again driven to seek a home the wanderer looked on Delos. Though today this smallest island of the Cyclades is desolated and in ruins, scarcely one stone upon another, legends and history which cling to it will always be fascinating. The waters in its one remaining fountain and the brilliant and unusual collection of flowers whisper to us that Jupiter once fastened this floating bit of earth to the sea bottom with huge chains in order that it might become the birthplace of his son Apollo. To give credence to the story you can find on the island the sacred lake, and excavations have revealed the theater, and the early temple of Apollo.

Thence Aeneas journeyed to Crete, the fourth largest island in the

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A NATIVE KING OF THE GOLD COAST COLONY AND HIS COUNSELLORS. (See Bulletin No. 4.)



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When Footballs Were Stuffed with Shavings

FOOTBALL, which now holds the athletic stage in colleges and high schools, is considered a strenuous game, but the style of play in this generation is a mild and tame exercise as compared to the original forms of the sport, according to a communication to the National Geographic Society, which says:

"Running, throwing, hitting, and kicking are the fundamental muscular operations of America's characteristic sports—baseball, football, tennis, and golf. The peoples of antiquity manifested all these instincts in cruder form."

Many Games of "Kicking the Ball"

"Luzon hillmen, the Polynesians, and the Eskimos and Sumatra Islanders had games played by kicking a ball. Greeks played it, and the Roman game, harpastum, derived its name from the Greek 'I seize,' which is evidence that carrying the ball was practiced by them. With shoes of hide, the medieval Italians played a game which seems the direct ancestor of the Anglo-Saxon college sport. Gaelic scholars point to a football game in Ireland before the time of Christ, and until comparatively recent times Shrove Tuesday was as distinctively an occasion for football as is our Thanksgiving today."

"In old England football was even rougher than most sports of those hardy times. James I thought it was 'meeter for lameing than making able the users thereof.' Henry VIII and Elizabeth ruled against it. Edward II frowned upon it for its interference with archery and also because of the commotion it aroused. In those times it was played in the city streets. A writer of the sixteenth century called it a 'devilish pastime' and charged it with inciting 'envy and sometimes brawling, murther, and homicide.'

Women Joined in Football Games

"Nevertheless, by the time of Charles II football had become firmly established at Cambridge. It was ever held in high esteem in Ireland. There, when all other sports were prohibited for archery's sake, 'only the footballe' was exempt. Women joined with the men in playing it on Shrove Tuesdays. So many participated that few knew the whereabouts of the ball. An expedient, akin to that which a few years ago aroused a furore in the American sporting world, was adopted by a player who shook out the shavings with which the balls of those days were stuffed and carried it under his shirt to the goal."

"Abandoned as a general pastime because of its roughness, it was retained in colleges until, within the past half century, it sprang into renewed popularity in greatly modified form."

Took Game to Jerusalem

"The British carried football into Jerusalem when they recovered the sacred city. Missionaries have taught it to heathen tribes."

"The reason why it has become a handmaiden of civilization and is so popular among college men of America was summarized by Howard S. Bliss,

Mediterranean. Today two-thirds of the island is a stony waste, its famous forests of cedars and cypresses having long been desolated, a little fertile land existing at the foot of Mount Ida on which are grown olives and currants. Canea, the capital, a town of nearly 25,000, with low white-washed houses hugs the harbor. The island is rich in ruins, and its museum houses relics of a day five thousand years ago when the ladies of Crete disported themselves in high heel shoes, big hats, corsets and styles that today would be called "Parisian" and when the houses of the inhabitants had plumbing that compares favorably with ours of fifty years ago.

Town of Aeneas and Caesar

At the mercy of the whim of the gods, the wanderers again must set forth and this time the Strophades, two low-lying islets, today the seat of a small Greek monastery which gets its supplies from Zante, claimed them. Skirting the islands on the west coast of Greece they came to Actium, a town on the promontory of Actium, near the entrance to the Gulf of Ambracia. Here perhaps, a thousand years after the visit of Aeneas, Octavius Caesar defeated the combined fleets of Antony and Cleopatra.

North then they journeyed to Epirus which for a long time was a part of Turkey in Europe. Now this portion of ancient Greece is back under the sheltering wing of the mother kingdom. The town then existing as Buthrotus, now is Butrinto on the coast immediately opposite the island of Corfu, and lies in the region which is yet in dispute between Albania and Greece.

An Early Eruption of Aetna

The modern town of Kyme, near the site of the ancient Cumae, their next stopping place, before the World War had an extensive trade with southern Russia. Then past Mount Aetna the exiles went, and the mighty volcano, which within our own lifetime has shaken the earth beneath its feet with its rumblings and has clouded the air with its smoke, burst forth in a spectacular eruption. Following the coast line of southern Sicily they at length came to Tepani, the seaport of Sicily 46 miles west of Palermo, which lures the modern globe trotter with its numerous churches, its famous Madonna, its cameos and coral works, its marble and alabaster quarries. Just a short distance from Drepanum, or Tepani, the Carthaginians defeated the Romans in 249 B. C.

Thence a storm took them to Carthage. The site of the ancient city is still visible from any hill in Tunis, and is occupied by Sidi-bou-Said. There is a railway station, a postoffice, a cathedral and a museum as well as a monastery and a hotel, in the pretty little town, all Arab in its architecture and spirit. So Mohammedan is it that it is only recently that Christians have been allowed to sleep in the village. Excavations in the vicinity are revealing many Punic objects.

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Africa's Oil Coast

REPORTS of oil pools and gushers in the Gold Coast Colony of West Africa sustain the opinion of many geographers that this is the richest area in the world for its size.

Columbus is believed to have done some of his apprentice exploring along the Gold Coast shores before he set sail for America and many an emancipated slave of our southland could find his family tree among the natives of this British Colony. The golden age of the Gold Coast, commercially considered, was in the days of flourishing slave trade, and the oil fields promise again to outbuy the entire product of the gold grains winnowed from the sands of the many rivers of this region.

A Forest Fairyland

When you read that three-fourths of the colony is covered with thick forests you get a very inadequate idea of what you would see could you look upon the amazing fastness of Bombax trees, piercing the skyline at a hundred feet, with columnar trunks, free from branches below the top quarter-length. The trees known best are like icebergs in that their bases, or root systems, are under the surface. These foreign giants would remind you of a Christmas tree, buttressed by what look to be huge triangular supports. Should you dig beneath one of these buttresses you would find tiny tendrils, such as those which might nourish a sapling. In the ample spaces between these buttresses natives sometimes pitch primitive tents.

The impression of a forest of telephone poles is further conveyed by great cables sagging from tree to tree. These "creepers" are popularly known as monkey-rope, appropriately enough, since many varieties of monkeys are to be found in these forests.

With the exception of the horizontal network of "monkey-rope" these thickets are vertical forests as truly as New York has been called a "Vertical City." They furnish a mute example of inanimate objects valorously striving for their places in the sunlight. Not only are the trees overgrown, but it would seem that they had pulled aloft, to a similar scale, the bushes which often are twice as high as a man, and the weeds which graze your shoulder instead of entangling your feet.

Parasitic Plants Abound

Finally, so fertile is the equatorial soil, that nature is far from satisfied with the plant life which clutters the soil and cranes its foliage to get a speck of sunshine, but nourishment is afforded a second crop of parasitic plants, such as the orchids which grow from the branches of the Bombax trees.

The Gold Coast Colony stretches along some 270 miles of a harborless coast, and extends back for about half that distance to the border of Ashanti. Its government seat, Accra, which escapes by only a few degrees of having both a latitude and longitude of zero, is reputed to be especially unhealthful. The

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writing about the Syrian Protestant college at Beirut, of which he was president, in an article for the National Geographic Magazine:

"You will find the son of a prince playing football under the captaincy of a peasant or the son of a cook. We believe in football there and we have 17 or 18 different football teams in college. The game develops the ability to receive a hard blow without showing the white feather or drawing a dagger. This means that when the men get out of college they will stand upon their feet as men!"

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THEY COVER THEIR EARS WITH FLOWERS IN THE MARQUESAS

These blossoms are called love flowers, or flowers of friendship, by the Marquesan girls. (See Bulletin No. 5.)

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The Coiffures of Many Languages

THE modern "flapper" who is reputed to spend hours curling her bobbed locks to make them stand out three or four inches from her face has nothing on the Fiji islander, for the Fijian makes his hair stand on end on the top of his head to a height of six inches.

The Fijian dandy wears at night a compressing band which is probably as uncomfortable as curling-pins to train his thick, stiff and wiry bush to this remarkable feat. When it becomes long and erect he takes a looking-glass, entrusts his scissors to a trusty friend and under his personal supervision the mop is trimmed with a wonderful skill into a ragged halo that stands out in pompous array around his shiny black face.

Bleaches and Dyes His Locks

To add to the grotesque impression, the Beau Brummel bleaches the coiffure to a sickly yellow with lime made from coral or dyes it red with annatto. Then he rubs in scented coconut oil and sticks several varieties of red flowers into it. One traveler reports that his guide turned up one morning with "his mahogany bush of hair adorned with two kinds of red flowers, three kinds of white, a bunch of green-and-white ribbon-grass and an aigrette of fern." And when it rained a little later he held a giant taro-leaf about four feet by three over it umbrella-wise for protection.

When the Hopi maiden decides to conquer, instead of announcing her debut in the newspapers, she parts her hair in the middle and screws it into two whorls just above the ears. Whereupon the young men who prize their liberty take to the desert.

Make Their Hair a Utility

South of Mahamanina, in Madagascar, the women do their hair in two rows of little balls, while behind their heads they place a piece of hollow wood, ornamented with brass-headed nails, fastened into the hair. In this cylinder they keep all their pins, needles and small valuables. Near the coast on the same island the women plait the hair in very fine braids which they twist into thin flat circular coils of from one to two and a half inches in diameter. These little coils of hair entirely encircle the head, and, strange to say, they give an elegant, though rather singular, appearance.

The Sevillian woman who piles her hair on the top of her head into a little fortress is following the custom which Spanish women have practiced for hundreds of years. Artemidorus, in the sixth century before Christ, tells of the extravagant headdresses of Iberian women and they also are shown in the prehistoric statuary of the country.

Big chiefs in some parts of new Guinea wear rigid plaited frames on their heads which support cassowary or paradise feathers during their dances. The black cassowary feather is the distinguishing ornament of the chiefs, but wearers are unable to enjoy to the fullest the big celebrations because of the heaviness of these headdresses.

entire region is hot and damp, has two rainy seasons, and is swept by that peculiarly dust-laden Sahara wind, the harmattan.

Along this coast lies Kormantine, famous as the place where slaves first were exported, which gave the name, Cormantynes, to the West Indies slaves which came from this region.

A Primitive Soviet System

Of the estimated population of a million, fewer than 2,000 are Europeans. The most noted of the native peoples are the Fanti, whose women of light brown skin are pretty. Their favorite perfume is distilled from the excrement of snakes. Shark flesh, sun dried, is a favorite edible. Among them, as among many primitive fighting peoples, mothers are held in high esteem. Property is inherited by the oldest son of the oldest sister. Land is held in a communal fashion, the possession of a gold "stool" being the badge of a chief's authority to the lands over which he holds sway. Areas are assigned to families but they revert to the community upon the holder's death.

Trees, plants, animals, snakes and insects are found in amazing variety. Here, as in many other verdant tropical regions, flowers are not nearly so abundant. The animate curiosity of the Gold Coast is the driver-ant, which also constitutes its worst pest. The driver-ants constitute the standing army of the insect world. They have a system of caste and rank, and the naturalist gravely tells that the workers are a quarter of an inch long, the soldiers about half an inch, while the stately officers reach seven-eighths of an inch.

A "crack regiment of driver-ants," says the Oxford Survey of the British Empire, marches "in close formation, perhaps twelve abreast, forming a line some two inches wide, the soldiers being distributed along the flanks and at regular intervals amongst the workers, on much the same plan as that laid down for a British column in thick country. The force travels at the double, and generally at night, taking as straight a line as possible and selecting all available cover, an advance party having already prepared the way. These insects construct tunnels in exposed spots, perhaps 30 feet in length, with a height and breadth which may be as much as 1 inch, and provided with airshafts. Every animal makes way for them, for they will attack anything in their path, even fire, their system of communication enabling them to send reinforcements to any threatened point."

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Note to Teachers

Since both school and public libraries generally have bound volumes of *The National Geographic Magazine* it has been suggested that references to articles and pictures in *The Geographic* concerning topics treated in the bulletins would be helpful. Therefore references which may be of use for further study of the subjects, or for source material in project and problem assignments, are contained in the following partial bibliography extracted from "The Cumulative Index to the National Geographic Magazine." A limited supply of some copies may be ordered from The Society's offices at the prices named. Those numbers marked with an asterisk (*) are out of print.

Africa. See six articles on Africa in *National Geographic Magazine* for October, 1922, with 16 full-page engravings and special map supplement, 32x28 inches, showing areas on that continent affected by the Treaty of Versailles which were even more extensive than those so affected in Europe.
Cretan. *The Sea-Kings of Crete.* By James Baikie. Vol. XXIII, pp. 1-25, 13 illustrations, Jan., 1912. (*)
Fiji Islands. *In the Savage South Seas.* By Beatrice Grimshaw. Vol. XIX, pp. 1-19, 21 illustrations, Jan., 1908. 25c.
Greece: *The Geography of Games: How the Sports of Nations Form a Gazetteer of the Habits and Histories of Their Peoples.* Vol. XXXVI, pp. 89-144, 61 illustrations, August 1919. 25c.

Hopi Indians: *The Snake Dance.* By Marion L. Oliver. Vol. XXII, pp. 107-137, 31 ills., Feb., 1911. (*)
Troy: *Homer's Troy Today.* By Jacob E. Conner. Vol. XXVII, pp. 520-532, 11 illustrations, 1 half-page map, May, 1915. 25c.
Venezuelans: *Shattered Capitals of Central America.* By Herbert J. Spinden. Vol. XXXVI, pp. 185-212, 32 illustrations, 1 page map, Sept., 1919. 25c.
The Valley of Ten Thousand Smokes: *An Account of the Discovery and Explorations of the Most Wonderful Volcanic Region in the World.* By Robert F. Griggs. Vol. XXXIII, pp. 115-169, 46 illustrations, 1 half-page map, 1 panorama, Feb., 1918. (*)



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THE HEAD DRESS OF A HEAD HUNTER OF LUZON

with soot, curl the black hair and paint it with red clay, shave off their eyebrows and pull out their eyelashes.

Bulletin No. 5, November 13, 1922.

Use Plants to Scent Hair

Among African tribes the methods of hair-dressing are legion. The Wemba men shave two parallel strips of wool from the nape of the neck round the crown to the forehead. Some of them cut all the hair off, leaving just a fringe high up on the skull. Others leave just a small circular tuft at the back. The Wemba and Winamwanga women scent their hair with aromatic plants.

The men near Lake Bangweolo sometimes wear wigs made of coarse matted fiber and the Bisas weave into wisps of hair fibre or bristles until it hangs down in matted, string-like bunches. The Bisa women weave red and white beads into their hair until the hair itself in places is quite concealed. Some Shinga chiefs roll their hair until it resembles the types of hair-dressing seen in the ancient Egyptian bas-reliefs.

Shave and Paint Heads

The Bambala people shave their heads except for a little round spot resembling a cap on the top of the head. They then paint the bare portion with palm oil and soot. An old man usually covers his tuft of white-hair with a red cloth, and a warrior wears the bones of his victims wrapped in a cloth on the top of his head for the magical properties they are supposed to possess.

The Bakwese follow somewhat the same customs as the Bambalas, but the chiefs usually coil their hair into five bunches. The Bayanzi men usually tie their locks into a bunch at the back of their necks, while the women part theirs in the middle and plait it over their ears. But the Bahmana take the palm for "beauty"; they shave the front of their heads and paint them

